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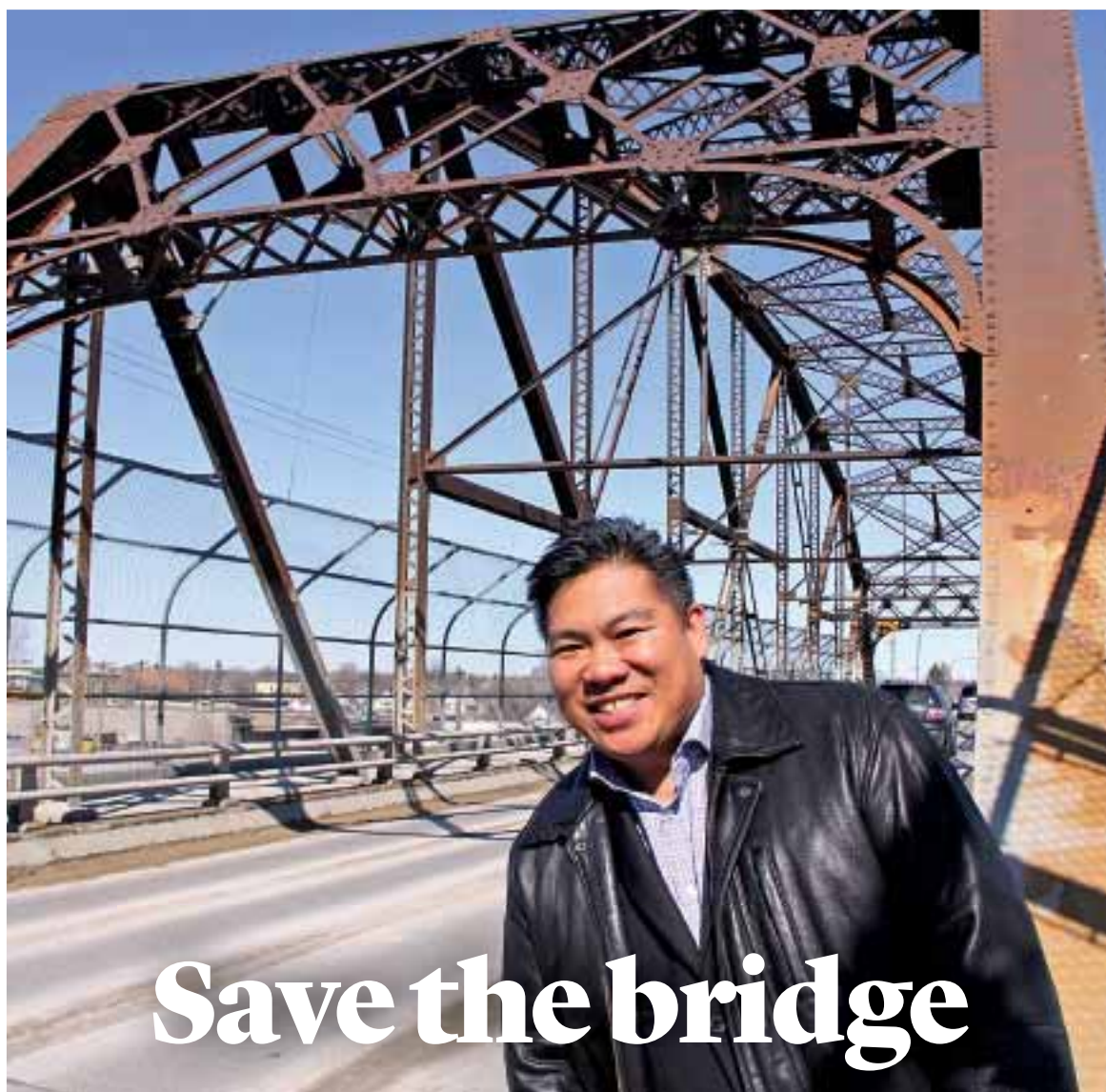
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PAGE 14



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MARCH 27-29, 2015

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Save the bridge

Coun. Mike Pagtakhan stands in front of the century-old Arlington Bridge, scheduled to be decommissioned in 2020. Council is looking for cash to keep the structure, which Pagtakhan says the city needs to keep traffic moving. Story, page 6.

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Toews fights wage garnish

RENTAL DISPUTE

Judge says he couldn't read French documents

Manitoba judge and former Conservative cabinet minister Vic Toews was to have his wages garnished earlier this year, to settle a dispute with an Ottawa-area landlord.

Toews unsuccessfully tried to block the repayment, arguing that he didn't realize what was going on because he couldn't read the official French-only documents from Quebec's rental tribunal.

The administrative judge from the Regie du Logement ruled last week that Toews should have known better, given his current and previous positions.

"More than anyone, he should be in a position to understand the respect and attention that should be paid to a document titled 'DECISION,'" wrote Pierre Gagnon.

The matter dates back to the summer of 2013, when Toews announced he was leaving federal politics. He was renting from the Gatineau, Que., firm Immeubles Desmarais, and according to tribunal documents did not pay

rent for the final three months of his lease — an outstanding total of \$3,900.

Landlord Raymond Desmarais went to the tribunal that November, but Toews did not show up to defend himself. The judge ruled that Toews must repay the rent, plus interest and \$78 in court costs.

But Toews did not repay Desmarais. In December 2014, he received a collection-agency letter saying he owed \$17,490, with the 2013 tribunal decision attached.

Toews' lawyer, Alexander Bayus, said it wasn't until January that Toews learned what had happened at the tribunal, as he discovered his wages were about to be garnished.

He filed a motion in February to reverse the judge's decision and said that the landlord's initial request was sent to the wrong address back in 2013.

Bayus also said that the collection agency's December letter didn't refer to the rental-agency firm "Immeubles Desmarais" but rather to owner "Raymond Desmarais," a name the judge didn't recognize.

It is unclear what the final rental bill was for Toews and whether it has now been paid.

Neither Toews nor Bayus responded to a request for comment. Desmarais also did not respond. THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$17K

In December 2014, Toews received a collection-agency letter saying he owed \$17,490 to a rental agency.

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Gallery aims to bring the riches of the North to all

ARTWORK

\$60M facility planned for 'unparalleled' Inuit culture

Winnipeg's art gallery is trying to carve out space to house what's billed as the world's largest public collection of Inuit art — only a fraction of which is ever on display.

The gallery has plans to build a \$60-million building for 13,000 pieces that include carvings, prints and drawings. The centre would include a climate-controlled "visible vault" of the collection, which the gallery says would be the first of its kind in North America and would offer education programs about the North.

Gallery director Stephen Borys said the 3,700-square-metre centre would be unique and would help bring the Arctic to the rest of Canada, considered the "deep south" to those in the North. The centre would raise the profile of "an art-making culture that, per capita, is unparalleled in the world," Borys said.

"There are communities where 20 to 30 per cent of the community are art-makers," he said Thursday.

"The art makers, who are behind these incredible ob-

jects, will have a platform, a voice and a way to communicate more of the land that they come from — the land that very, very few Canadians ever get the chance to visit."

The gallery has a long way to go before shovels are in the ground. Although its funding request was recently turned down by the city, TD Bank announced a \$500,000 donation Thursday to help fund an artist-in-residence and a printmaking studio.

Once built, the gallery will finally be able to display the pieces that make up half its permanent collection. Of the 13,000 pieces of Inuit art held in trust by the gallery, only about 100 are ever on public display at any one time.

There are also plans to store the collection digitally so it is internationally accessible.

The idea is welcomed by many in the Inuit community who would like to see a permanent place for Canadians to explore authentic Inuit culture. Fred Ford, head of the Manitoba Inuit Association, said art is an integral part of Inuit history, noting his people didn't have a written language until recently.

"This is how we've told our history and passed it on from generation to generation," he said. "These are our stories and this is our history."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Manitoba Inuit Association president Fred Ford stands next to Elisapee Ishulutaq's piece, Yesterday and Today, currently on display at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

POLITICS

Women need fair voice: Filmon

Manitoba's new lieutenant-governor says it's about time a woman was appointed to the job.

Janice Filmon is only the second female vice-regal for the province, preceded by Pearl McGonigal, who held the office from 1981-1986.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed Filmon, the wife of former premier Gary Filmon, to the post earlier this week.

She says she's humbled and honoured and says it a privilege and an opportunity.

She also says that since women make up half the population of the world, they should have a voice in what goes on.

Filmon has been an active member of the community for decades: as chairwoman of the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation, past president of the University of Manitoba Alumni Association and a motivational speaker.

Filmon became a member of the Order of Canada in 2013 and an officer of the Order of Manitoba in 2007.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Janice Filmon

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City shortlists three firms for Transitway project

PUBLIC TRANSIT

Consortiums must now prepare their proposals



**Bernice
Pontanilla**
Metro | Winnipeg

The City of Winnipeg has shortlisted three consortiums for the design and construction work for the next phase of the rapid transit project that will link the downtown portion to the University of Manitoba.

City officials sent out a news release on Thursday stating that Plenary Roads Winnipeg, Red River Infrastructure Group and WinnCity Transportation Partners were selected as the three "proponents from the Capital Integration Project's request for qualifications" (RFQ) process, which closed last November.

The Capital Integration Project includes both the Southwest Transitway and Pembina Jubilee underpass projects, which are being built in the same public-private partnership (P3) manner as the Disraeli Bridge and the Chief Peguis



The city says they have shortlisted three consortiums to potentially build the next phase of Rapid Transit. SHANE GIBSON/METRO FILE

Trail extension from Henderson Highway to Lagimodiere Boulevard.

The consortiums will now

work on putting their bids together for the request for proposals process being issued this year.

Those bids will be evaluated and then a winning consortium will be announced in early 2016, the release stated.

CRIME

Man serving life is found dead in prison

A man serving a life sentence for killing a woman in B.C. was found dead in his cell at Stony Mountain Institution in Manitoba, say justice officials.

Dennis Barry McFadden, 64, was found unresponsive in his living unit on Monday. Of-

ficials said staff members immediately began performing CPR and emergency services were called, but he could not be resuscitated.

McFadden was convicted in June 1980 for the stabbing death of Marion MacKay in her

home in Saanich, B.C. in March of 1979. McFadden, a plumber, was doing repairs in her home when he said they got into a fight over the cost of repairs to a window he had broken.

McFadden told police he did not remember killing MacKay,

but her naked body was found wrapped in a tarp in a boat he owned, on his property. She had been stabbed 26 times with a knife.

He was convicted of first-degree murder.

METRO

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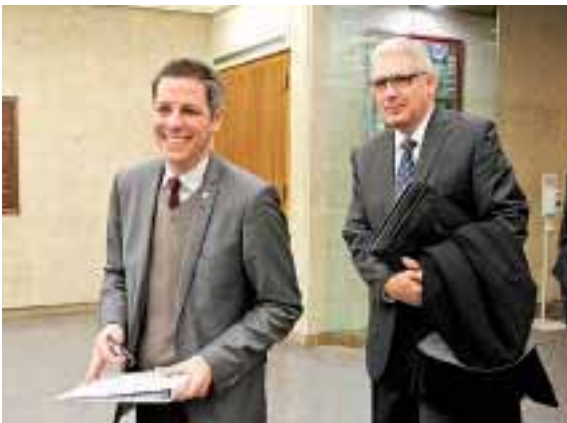
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Mayor Brian Bowman and now council-confirmed CAO Doug McNeil walk to a council seminar Tuesday. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Unanimous support for new CAO

CITY HALL

Doug McNeil gets warm welcome from council



Bernice Pontanilla
Metro | Winnipeg

Universal support and glowing words greeted the City of Winnipeg's new chief administrative officer Doug McNeil during Wednesday's council meeting.

McNeil, who worked for the city's water and waste department before moving on to the Floodway Authority and Manitoba's Infrastructure and Transportation Department, was a hiring committee's choice for CAO.

Council confirmed the selection so quickly that there was no opportunity to place comments on the public record.

Coun. Jason Schreyer (Elm-

wood-East Kildonan) requested that the rules be suspended to give councillors the chance to speak on the choice of McNeil. It was granted.

Schreyer said he had the "good fortune" to have worked with McNeil while an assistant to MLA Steve Ashton, who was minister of infrastructure and transportation until this past December.

"I think it's a wonderful choice that we can all have confidence in," added Schreyer.

McNeil was at city hall on Tuesday morning for a seminar with councillors and Mayor Brian Bowman.

He said he was looking forward to getting reacquainted with former colleagues and getting to know the new faces.

"It's exciting to come back (after 11 years) and to lead this great organization," he told reporters before the council seminar got underway.

"I'm a strong, confident leader. I'm also a public servant. I'm in this business because I like serving the public."

tions to Polo Park before performing the indecent act and following the woman a short distance.

The woman was able to outrun the man and called police.

Just a few hours after police released the sketch, Drew Wintink, 27, of Winnipeg was arrested in the downtown area and charged with an indecent act and failing to comply with both a probation order and the conditions of an undertaking. METRO

INVESTIGATION

Barn fire in rural Kola kills 2,200 pigs

The provincial fire commissioner's office is investigating a blaze in western Manitoba this week that killed about 1,500 hogs and 700 piglets.

Virden and Melita RCMP responded to the fire in Kola, 300 kilometres west of Winnipeg, just before 10 p.m. on Tuesday, said police. There, they found the barn fully engulfed in flames and the local fire department struggling to keep the blaze under control.

Firefighters from three communities ended up fighting the blaze.

Brad Yochim, chief of the Wallace District Fire Department, says crews were at the scene until 4 a.m. Wednesday, but the barn was a complete loss.

Police said that while there were no human injuries, 1,500 hogs died in the blaze.

The investigation continues; however, RCMP said the blaze does not appear to be suspicious.

+ BACKGROUND

The barn was owned by pork producer HyLife. HyLife's website states that the company produces 1.4 million hogs a year in Canada and the U.S., and ships its products around the world.

METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

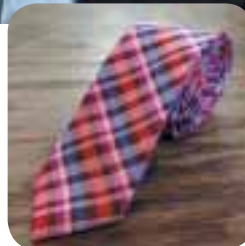


A blaze rages in a barn in Kola on Tuesday. COURTESY RCMP

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IN BRIEF

Man charged with indecent act

Police have made a quick arrest in an indecent-act case from earlier this week.

Investigators released a sketch Wednesday after a man approached a 45-year-old woman near the corner of Orange Street and Bangor Avenue early Tuesday morning and performed an indecent act.

Police say the man first asked the victim for direc-



The Arlington Bridge is nearing the end of its lifespan and is scheduled to be decommissioned in 2020, should no remedial action be taken. A report is expected in October. SHANE GIBSON/METRO FILE

Council seeks cash to save bridge

INFRASTRUCTURE

Councillor glad about support for century-old landmark



Bernice Pontanilla
Metro | Winnipeg

The city appears poised to save the rapidly decaying Arlington

Bridge, after council talked about finding cash for the structure at a city council meeting this week.

Late last year, the city gathered feedback on what to do with the bridge, which opened in 1912, but is reaching the end of its lifespan.

Should no remedial action be taken, the Arlington Bridge will be decommissioned in 2020. A final report on what to do with the bridge is expected in October.

Coun. Mike Pagtakhan, whose Point Douglas ward includes the bridge, told Metro on Thursday

he was “heartened” to hear supportive words from several of his council colleagues about the bridge on Wednesday.

“It is one of those ‘no-choice’ things, we have to do it,” said Pagtakhan, adding that 2012 numbers pinned the bridge use at 15,000 vehicles a day.

“There’s infrastructure projects that have to be done and people recognize that this is one of them.”

Pagtakhan said talk several years ago on possibly closing the bridge has been thrown out the

window, as both city staff and elected officials now understand that with two recently approved housing developments in north-west Winnipeg, McPhillips “can’t take” the added traffic.

In an interview with Metro last December, Larry Weinstein, owner of United Unlimited Importers Exporters Wholesalers at Jarvis Avenue and Arlington, said the bridge’s closure would have detrimental effects on the area’s traffic and businesses.

“If they tear down the bridge, where are they going to reroute

that traffic? McPhillips is already a bottleneck during the rush hours in the morning and the evening, and the Slaw Rebchuk Bridge on Salter and Isabel, that’s a bottleneck on most days and so is Main Street,” Weinstein said at the time, adding the city should also consider buying out the rail yard.

“So now you’ve got a problem, you’re going to try to divert the traffic that goes through the Arlington Bridge and spread it out over those other locations; it’s going to be terrible.”

+ BACKGROUND

Coun. Mike Pagtakhan said area residents told him during community consultations last year that back in the day, their families found a novel use for the Arlington Bridge. “They’re a little bit older than me and said, ‘Did you know we used to picnic up there?’,” said Pagtakhan with a chuckle.

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Wyatt may bring back motion

TRUE NORTH SQUARE

Councillor would like to see standoff end soon



Bernice Pontanilla
Metro | Winnipeg

One of the two city councillors behind a withdrawn motion related to a \$400-million development project at the former Carlton Inn site said he may bring the motion back next month if there's no resolution to the standoff between Mayor Brian Bowman and CentreVenture.

Coun. Russ Wyatt authored a motion for Wednesday's council meeting that would have seen the deletion of the public bid process requirement for 220 Carlton St.

Wyatt told Metro on Thursday that he withdrew his motion because he was informed that efforts were underway to find a solution. However, he'll re-table it at the April 29

meeting if necessary.

"But by far I would prefer to see the matter resolved ahead of time," he said.

This isn't the first time Wyatt has questioned the expression of interest (EOI) process.

During the Feb. 25 council meeting, Wyatt said he didn't want to see True North Square project "fail because of a dispute here at the city."

Bowman and council voted on Jan. 26 to impose an expression of interest process on CentreVenture, even though it'd been made public that CentreVenture had signed an option agreement with True North Sports & Entertainment, set for expiry in June.

On Feb. 4, True North chairman Mark Chipman held a news conference to announce that he was putting his \$400-million development project named "True North Square" on hold.

Asked on Thursday if he's met with Chipman, Bowman said any such meetings would be on "a personal basis," since True North's agreement is with CentreVenture, not the city.



Councillors Ross Eadie and Russ Wyatt chat privately before withdrawing a motion related to the CentreVenture-True North option agreement. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

IN BRIEF

Shots fired at Jefferson-area home, witness says

Police are investigating after a witness says as many as 10 gunshots were fired at a Jefferson neighbourhood home early Tuesday. A report of shots fired brought police to the home in the 400 block of Belmont Avenue around 5 a.m. Police said no one was injured in the shooting. There have been no arrests made.

METRO

Pizza delivery guy robbed

A Winnipeg pizza delivery driver was robbed of cash, personal property — and his pizzas — while making a delivery in North Point Douglas early Wednesday. Police say the driver was bringing an order to a home in the first 100 block of Lusted Avenue around 12:45 a.m. when two armed men with their faces hidden robbed him. The two men fled on foot. The first man is possibly white, five-foot-nine, with a skinny build. The second is taller than the first and also possibly white. METRO



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ANTI-TERROR BILL

Ex-spymaster says activists need not fret

Many demonstrators are flattering themselves when they publicly fret about coming under the scrutiny of security services, says a former spymaster.

Ray Boisvert said Thursday the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) had the resources to monitor only those threats “in the red, high-risk, high-probability zone” when he served as the agency’s assistant director of intelligence earlier this decade.

“That meant that we had no time to even consider looking at any sort of lesser evils that were emerging out there,” Boisvert told the House of Commons public-safety committee, which is studying a sweeping new security bill.

Boisvert, now a security consultant, said he takes “great offence” to commonly voiced concerns that the legislation would effectively place legitimate protest under the CSIS lens, adding that groups and individuals “should not flatter yourself to that degree.”

Boisvert and David Harris, another retired CSIS officer, backed a legislative proposal to allow the spy agency to actively derail terror plots — not just gather information about them.

It would give CSIS flexible options to handle threats, Harris

“This isn’t who we are as Canadians.”

Zarqa Nawaz, creator of Little Mosque on the Prairie

told the MPs. “These can be very important in moving decisively when there may be a risk situation developing,” said Harris, also a private consultant.

Under the bill, CSIS could take clandestine measures that violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms as long as a judge approves the actions.

The disruption provisions would conscript judges into the “dirty business” of spying, said Ziyaad Mia of the Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association.

“It turns the role of the judiciary completely upside down,” he said. “This is not the role of judges in our system.”

Zarqa Nawaz, creator of television’s Little Mosque on the Prairie, said an informed citizenry is the best defence against extremism. During personal reflections about her life as a Muslim in Canada, she expressed concern about the recent wave of disrespectful comments about Islam.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Defence Minister Jason Kenney speaks with media Wednesday in the foyer of the House of Commons. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MPs told ISIL mission will need more time: Sources

IRAQ AND SYRIA

Military official said only 650 Kurds have been trained

The training of Kurdish peshmerga fighters has been a slow undertaking that could mean Canada’s mission in Iraq and Syria will take more than a year, The Canadian Press has learned.

That was the message officials from the Canadian Forces and Foreign Affairs delivered behind closed doors Wednesday to the main critics of the New

Democrats and the Liberals.

The briefing included an officer who currently oversees the strategic joint staff, the military’s nerve centre. Neither Defence Minister Jason Kenney nor Foreign Affairs Minister Rob Nicholson were present.

Maj.-Gen. Mike Hood, who will soon become the commander of the air force, told the briefing that only 650 peshmerga fighters have been trained since a contingent of 69 elite Canadian commandos deployed to northern Iraq last September, according to multiple sources with knowledge of what was said in the room.

The MPs were told that “this was not a one-year undertaking

+ MIDDLE EAST

U.S. raids

The U.S. has reportedly been using a third-party country to notify the Syrians know about its raids, the legality of which has been debated.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

by any stretch of the imagination, that it will take multiple years,” said one source, who insisted on anonymity.

Hood tried to reassure the politicians that CF-18 jet fighters would be able to conduct precision strikes on moving and static targets inside Syria

— one objective of a controversial motion by the Harper government.

Sources said Hood told the briefing that the Canadians would get accurate strike information from intelligence and surveillance platforms, but did not say how the intelligence would be gathered.

Hood ruled out sending special forces personnel into Syria to “paint” airstrike targets — identifying and steering laser-guided munitions — as they have done for Kurdish forces in northern Iraq. He also said there were no plans to notify the Syrian government in advance of any air operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DEFENCE

Budget watchdog says military costs unsustainable

The Harper government has built a military that it cannot afford and will be forced to make tough choices in the future, if it sticks with the current funding envelope, the country’s budget watchdog said Thursday.

The new assessment by the parliamentary budget office came as debate kicked off in the House of Commons about an expanded and extended war against

the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, a conflict that opposition MPs were warned this week will last more than a year.

Jean-Denis Frechette, the parliamentary budget officer, says the federal government will need to either pour more money into its defence budget, scale back its ambitions, or do a mixture of both in order to put Canada’s military on a sustainable footing.

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Taiwan, Israel top sponsored MP trips

POLITICS

Commissioner releases MP travel arranged by outside orgs

Sixty MPs declared 86 free trips — courtesy of advocacy organizations, business groups and foreign embassies — worth a total of \$442,524 last year, according to a summary of sponsored travel reports released Thursday by Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner Mary Dawson.

The most popular destinations for travel junkets in 2014 were Taiwan, which received 17 visits, and Israel, which was frequented 12 times.

MPs are required to disclose travel worth more than \$500 — and paid for by someone other than the federal government, political parties, inter-parliamentary associations or the MPs themselves — to the commissioner within 60 days.

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair travelled to Las Vegas with his executive assistant George



NDP leader Thomas Mulcair travelled to Las Vegas to speak at a labour conference, paid for by the United Steelworkers International. He was among 60 MPs who took trips on others' dimes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

Keeping it legal

MPs are required to disclose travel worth more than \$500 — and paid for by someone other than the federal government, political parties, inter-parliamentary associations or the MPs themselves — to the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner within 60 days.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Smith to speak at the convention for the United Steelworkers International, from Aug. 11 to 12, 2014. The union covered \$2,915 in travel costs.

Liberal MP Irwin Cotler travelled to Israel to address a counterterrorism conference in Herzliya from Sept. 4 to 12, 2014. The university IDC Herzliya covered \$5,219 in travel costs.

NDP MP Paul Dewar attended the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons from Dec. 6 to 9, 2014. The Friedrich-Ebert Foundation

covered \$2,105 in travel costs.

Liberal MP Stéphane Dion travelled to Spain, visiting Barcelona, Madrid and Tarragona, to participate on multiple panels at a conference from Mar. 8 to 13, 2014. La Fundacion Canada and Federalistes d'Esquerres covered \$2,947 in travel costs.

Conservative MP James Rajotte travelled to Ghana "to experience realities, opportunities and challenges" in the country from July 14 to 24, 2014. Engineers Without Borders Canada covered \$3,629 in travel costs.

Conservative MP Barry Devolin travelled to Seoul, South Korea from March 9 to 22, 2014, first as part of the official delegation with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and then stayed on for work in his role as co-chair of the Canada-Korea Interparliamentary Friendship Group. Devolin declared \$1,077 worth of hotel accommodations from Korean businesswoman Hoon Park and \$658 worth of ground transportation from Korean businessman Byong Gil Suh. He paid his own way home.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

QUEBEC REGISTRY

Supreme Court to rule on gun data

The Harper government may be headed for another political collision with the Supreme Court of Canada, which is set to rule Friday on the fate of Quebec's gun registry data.

The Conservatives abolished the registry for long guns in February 2011, fulfilling a five-year-old campaign promise after forming a majority government.

They also ordered that all data collected by the provinces be destroyed — a decision the Quebec government went to court to overturn.

A Quebec judge originally granted the province's request to preserve the data, calling it a constitutional infringement to destroy it. But that decision was overturned by the Quebec Court of Appeal, which said there was no constitutional violation in the federal order to destroy the data.

Jeremy Laurin, a spokesman for Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney, defended the government's decision to seek to have the gun registry data destroyed.

"It would be dangerous for our law enforcement to rely on outdated and obsolete information to conduct their operations," Laurin said in a statement.

He reiterated the government's oft-repeated position that the registry was wasteful and that the government "will always stand up for law-abiding hunters, farmers and sport shooters."

Friday's ruling deals with a narrow legal issue: the Quebec government isn't taking issue

with Ottawa's jurisdiction to get rid of the long gun registry, only the provision to destroy the data.

Quebec is arguing that the registry was a joint effort between the provinces and the federal government, giving it the right to keep the data.

Under the registry, a lone federal registrar was responsible for issuing a certificate for each firearm. The registrar worked in conjunction with the various chief firearms officers in each province who would issue gun owners their possession licences, as well as authorizations to carry and transport long guns.

They all had access to Canadian Firearms Information System, where all the information was stored and maintained by the RCMP.

The long-gun registry was borne of demands for stricter gun control in the wake of the massacre of 14 women at Montreal's Ecole Polytechnique in December 1989.

It's not the first time the gun registry has found itself the subject of debate at the high court.

After the Liberal government of the day established the registry in 1998, Alberta appealed to the Supreme Court saying Ottawa did not have the jurisdiction to impose such a measure on the province.

In 2000, the high court ruled unanimously that the federal government did in fact have to the right to enact a gun registry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

Supreme Court controversy

Once again the Supreme Court will find itself ruling on a key area of the government's agenda.

The court has ruled against Conservative policy in a number of key areas, including rejecting the ap-

pointment of Quebec judge Marc Nadon to its ranks, rejecting Parliament's right to reform the Senate on its own and upholding the right of Vancouver's Insite safe-injection facility to stay open despite government opposition. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Richard III buried with dignity

LEICESTER, U.K.

Infamous king's skeleton found 500 years after his death

A maligned monarch found under a parking lot was buried in pomp Thursday, as Britain embraced comeback King Richard III, a long-reviled ruler who is experiencing a remarkable, posthumous renaissance.

Royalty, religious leaders and actor Benedict Cumberbatch joined archeologists, Richard's distant relatives and curious Britons for a service in Leicester Cathedral that saw the king's bones buried with dignity, 530 years after his violent death.

"Richard's posthumous reputation has been less than glorious," Gordon Campbell, the University of Leicester's public orator, noted with understatement about a man whose name was long a byword for villainy.

But now, Campbell said, he has "the greatest following of all English monarchs" apart from

Queen Elizabeth II.

Britain in the 21st century has enthusiastically embraced the story of the medieval king whose battle-scarred skeleton was found under a parking lot in Leicester in 2012.

Thousands came to view his coffin ahead of Thursday's service, which was televised live.

In his sermon, Bishop of Leicester Tim Stevens said the discovery of the skeleton "has broken open not just a car park, but a nation's story."

Stevens said Richard was found just 40 metres from where he was being reburied.

The service was the culmination of a wave of Richard-mania that has been building since archeologists looking for Richard dug up a skeleton with a distinctively curved spine.

Scientific sleuthing — including radiocarbon dating, bone analysis and DNA tests — confirmed the remains belonged to the long-lost king, who died at the Battle of Bosworth, near Leicester, in 1485.

The victor, Henry Tudor, went on to reign as King Henry VII and founded the Tudor dynasty.



Women in traditional dress attend a service for the reinterment of the mortal remains of King Richard III at Leicester Cathedral in Leicester, U.K. on Thursday. RUI VIEIRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Reputation does not have the last word for Richard ...

Bishop Tim Stevens

Many of those who this week came to Leicester, 160 kilometres north of London, were unabashed Richard fans, ecstatic that he is finally getting his due.

There was star power, too, as Cumberbatch — who plays Richard III in the BBC's Shake-

spearean TV series "The Hollow Crown" — read a poem by Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy.

University of Leicester genealogists, leaving no Richard-related stone unturned, have identified Cumberbatch as the late king's second cousin, 16

+ BACKGROUND

History in the making

Richard was buried, without a coffin, in a church that was later demolished. For centuries his image was defined by William Shakespeare's Richard III — a hunchbacked, power-hungry tyrant who murdered his two young nephews because they were rivals for the crown.

Some historians argue that Richard was a relatively enlightened monarch whose reign between 1483-85 saw reforms including the introduction of the right to bail and the lifting of restrictions on books and printing presses.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

times removed.

In a climax of simple dignity, the king's oak coffin was lowered by a group of soldier pallbearers into a grave in the cathedral floor, surrounded by a black marble plinth carved with his name: "Richard III."

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Investigators carry boxes from the apartment of Germanwings airliner jet co-pilot Andreas Lubitz, in Duesseldorf, Germany, Thursday. MARTIN MEISSNER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Co-pilot crashed plane on purpose

FLIGHT 9525

Some airlines get stricter on cockpit rules

Passengers with moments to live screamed in terror and the pilot frantically pounded on the locked cockpit door as a 27-year-old German co-pilot deliberately and wordlessly smashed an Airbus carrying 150 people into an Alpine mountainside.

The account Thursday of the final moments of Germanwings Flight 9525 prompted some airlines to immediately impose stricter cockpit rules — and raised haunting questions about the motive of the co-pilot, whose breathing never wavered as he destroyed the plane and the lives of those aboard.

“We have no idea of the reason,” Marseille prosecutor Brice Robin said, revealing the chilling conclusions investigators reached after reconstructing the final minutes of the flight from the plane’s black-box voice recorder: Co-pilot Andreas Lubitz’s intention was “to destroy this plane.”

French, German and U.S. officials said there was no indication of terrorism. The prosecutor did not elaborate on why investigators do not suspect a political motive; instead they’re focusing on the co-pilot’s “personal, family and professional environment” to try to determine why he did it.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, whose nation lost 75 people on the flight, said the conclusions brought the tragedy to a “new, simply in-

comprehensible dimension.” Devastated families of victims visited the crash scene Thursday, looking across a windy mountain meadow toward where their loved ones died.

The Airbus A320 was flying from Barcelona to Duesseldorf on Tuesday when it lost radio contact with air traffic controllers and began plunging from its cruising altitude of 38,000 feet, before slamming into a mountainside eight minutes later.

The prosecutor laid out in horrifying detail the final sounds heard in the cockpit extracted from the mangled voice recorder.

Lubitz, courteous in the first part of the trip, became “curt” when the captain began the mid-flight briefing on the planned landing, Robin said.

The pilot, who has not been identified, left the cockpit for an apparent bathroom break, and Lubitz took control of the jet.

He suddenly started a manual descent, and the pilot started knocking on the door.

There was no response. “It was absolute silence in the cockpit,” the prosecutor said — except for the steady breathing he said indicated Lubitz was not panicked, and acted in a calm, deliberate manner.

The A320 is designed with safeguards to allow emergency entry into the cockpit if a pilot inside is unresponsive. But the override code known to the crew does not go into effect if the person inside the cockpit specifically denies entry.

Instrument alarms went off, but no distress call ever went out from the cockpit, and the control tower’s pleas for a response went unanswered.

+ NEW RULES

Effective immediately, any Canadian airline carrying passengers will be required to have two crew members in the cockpit at all times, Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said Thursday.

The federal government imposed the emergency directive in the aftermath of the Germanwings plane crash in France.

Raitt said the directive requires two members of the cabin crew — not necessarily both licensed pilots — to be on the flight deck at all times.

The move comes after Air Canada and Air Transat announced similar policy changes earlier today regarding the number of people required in the cockpit. Raitt said both Air Canada and WestJet would be implementing the change immediately. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Just before the plane hit the mountain, passengers’ cries of terror could be heard.

“The victims realized just at the last moment,” Robin said. “We can hear them screaming.”

Their families “are having a hard time believing it,” he said, after briefing some of them in Marseille.

Neither the prosecutor nor Lufthansa — the parent company of low-cost carrier Germanwings — indicated there was anything the pilot could have done to avoid the crash.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK CITY

Fire, building collapse critically injures 2

A building on fire near New York University collapsed on Thursday, and at least two people were critically injured, firefighters said.

Orange flames and black smoke billowed from the facade and roof of the five-story building in Manhattan, near several NYU buildings and the Washington Square Park area. Flames were spreading to other buildings.

Investigators were looking into whether there had been a gas leak. There were some reports of an explosion before the fire.

The area was being evacuated, and other people were being

evaluated at the scene.

Freelance photographer Michael Seto, who lives about 1-1/2 blocks away, said he was having lunch around 3:20 p.m.

“I could feel the boom in my apartment, and it sort of shook,” he said.

He grabbed his camera, ran outside and found a crowd gathering, looking at a brick tenement-style building with a restaurant on the first floor.

“By the second story, the front part of the building, the facade, the first and second stories, it looked like, had collapsed into



By the second story, the front part of the building, the facade, the first and second stories, it looked like, had collapsed into the street.

Freelance photographer Michael Seto

the street,” he said.

Rubble was on the sidewalk, and glass and debris had been flung across an avenue.

As Seto ran up to the building, a fire was starting inside it.

“It spread very quickly and pretty much engulfed the first

floor,” he said.

Meanwhile, a man was climbing up the fire escape, not down, he said.

“People were calling to him that the building’s on fire — he needs to get down,” and he did, Seto said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A building burns after an explosion on 2nd Avenue Thursday in New York City. ANDREW BURTON/GETTY IMAGES

CONFLICT

Gazans committed war crimes: Amnesty

The human rights group Amnesty International said in a report Thursday that Palestinian militants committed war crimes during the 2014 Gaza conflict by killing civilians using indiscriminate projectiles.

The report comes after two other reports issued in late 2014 that accused Israel of war crimes for attacks on multi-storey civilian buildings and Palestinian homes during the war.

The 50-day Gaza war left dead more than 2,100 Palestinians, mostly civilians. On the Israeli side, 66 soldiers and six civilians were killed.

Palestinian militants launched unguided rockets and mortars toward civilian areas, a breach of international law.

"The devastating impact of Israeli attacks on Palestinian civilians during the conflict is undeniable, but violations by one side in a conflict can never justify violations by their opponents," said Philip Luther of Amnesty International.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Invasion looms for Yemen

MIDDLE EAST

Houthi leader defiant under Saudi-led airstrikes

The turmoil in Yemen grew into a regional conflict Thursday, with Saudi Arabia and its allies bombing Shiite rebels allied with Iran, while Egyptian officials said a ground assault will follow the airstrikes.

Iran denounced the Saudi-led air campaign, saying it "considers this action a dangerous step." Oil prices jumped in New York and London after the offensive.

The military action turned impoverished and chaotic Yemen into a new front in the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Yemen's U.S.-backed President Abed-Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who fled the country Wednesday as the rebels, known as Houthis, advanced on his stronghold in the southern port of Aden, reappeared Thursday.

He arrived by plane in Saudi Arabia's capital of Riyadh, Saudi



Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, hold up their weapons Thursday to protest against Saudi-led airstrikes, as they chant slogans during a rally in Sanaa, Yemen. HANI MOHAMMED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

state TV reported.

Starting before dawn, Saudi warplanes pounded an air base, military bases and anti-aircraft positions in the capital of Sanaa and flattened a number of homes near the airport, killing at least 18 civilians, includ-

ing six children. Another round followed in the evening, again rocking the city.

Rebel leader Abdul-Malik al-Houthi angrily accused the United States, Saudi Arabia and Israel of launching a "criminal, unjust, brutal and sinful" cam-

paign aimed at invading and occupying Yemen.

White House spokesman Eric Schultz told reporters on Air Force One en route to Alabama that President Barack Obama had authorized logistical and intelligence support for the

66

Yemenis won't accept such humiliation.

Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, leader of the Houthi Yemeni Shiite rebels

strikes, but that the U.S. is not joining with direct military action.

In the air assault codenamed Operation Decisive Storm, Saudi Arabia deployed some 100 fighter jets, 150,000 soldiers and other navy units, Saudi-owned Al-Arabiya TV reported.

Also involved were aircraft from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Jordan, Morocco, Sudan and Egypt, though it was not clear which carried out actual strikes.

Once the airstrikes have weakened the rebels and their allies in the military forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a ground invasion of Yemen is planned by Egyptian, Saudi and other forces.

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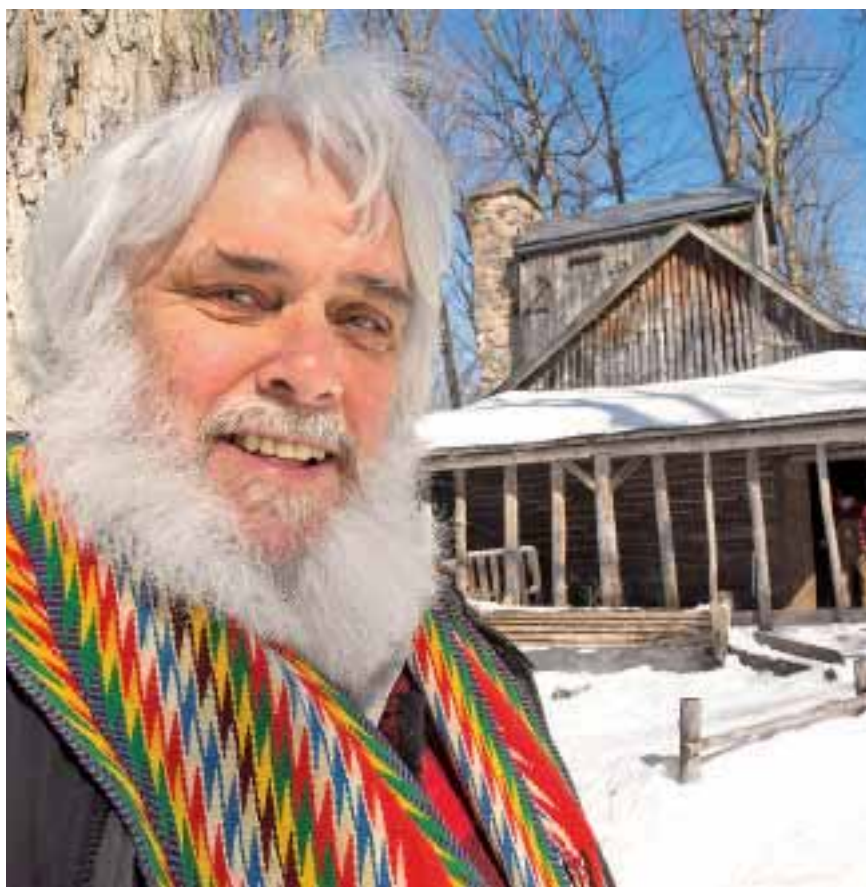
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Pierre Faucher, owner of Sucrerie de la Montagne in Rigaud, Que., is seen Tuesday at his sugar shack, where he boils the sap over a wood fire. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Long winter slows maple business

SEASONAL INDUSTRIES

Producers need warmer weather to get the sap flowing

Just like any other crop, maple syrup is at the mercy of Mother Nature, and the frigid winter hasn't been kind to Canadian sugar bush owners.

Many producers, like Ray Bonenberg of Mapleside Sugar Bush south of Pembroke, Ont., are keeping a close eye on the thermometer and anxiously waiting for a stretch of warmer days to get the sap flowing.

"I've been tapping all day, drilling holes and tapping, and it's running on the south side of the tree but not on the north side of the tree. It's too cold," said Bonenberg, who is also president of the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association.

"We need a really good thaw," he said. "We need a plus 12-to-15 (Celsius) day a couple of days."

But he is unfazed, because last season was also late due to the cold temperatures.

Production can vary widely from north to south. A few producers in the Sault Ste. Marie area boiled until May 1 last year, while those south of Highway 7 in Ontario were finished by the second week of April.

Quebec is experiencing a similar situation to Ontario this season, according to Caroline Cyr of the Federation of Quebec Maple Syrup Producers.

"In general, the season is late," she said, adding that she expects it to begin in earnest by the end of March.

Pierre Faucher, owner of Sucrerie de la Montagne in Rigaud, Que., was jubilant this week as sap started dripping into his 3,500 buckets. He's not letting the delay get to him. After all, says Faucher, you can't control Mother Nature.

"Nature doesn't have a watch, doesn't have a schedule like we do," Faucher said from his operation west of Montreal. A combination of nights below



Nature doesn't have a watch, doesn't have a schedule like we do.

Pierre Faucher, owner of Sucrerie de la Montagne

freezing and days above freezing is needed to get the sap flowing in sugar maple trees.

Faucher and four others gather sap by hand and boil it over a wood fire in a sugar shack. It takes about 40 litres of maple sap to make one litre of maple syrup. "Normal people have pipelines and pumps and stuff, but I wanted to keep it traditional," he said.

Deep snow in the Maritimes has meant producers have had to do some digging to uncover their lines. But sap flow a few weeks behind schedule was buying them time to get their trees tapped. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CABLE AND SATELLITE TV

CRTC wants contracts easier to understand

Canada's broadcast regulator issued its final thrust Thursday in a series of moves aimed at positioning consumers "in the driver's seat," ahead of the country's broadcasters, offering up a draft code that would require cable and satellite companies to make customer contracts easier to understand.

Broadcast service providers would also have to more clearly spell out fees and policies surrounding early contract cancellations and adding or removing individual channels under the code.

In issuing the proposed code, the CRTC also said it expects closed captioning services for Canadians with disabilities, already available through regular television programming, to be included free of charge when those programs are broadcast online and on mobile devices.

And it said described video — a talk-over service for visually impaired viewers — must be expanded, with a requirement that all programs aired between 7 and 11 p.m. include the service by September 2019.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ENTERTAINMENT

Premier pleads for Cirque to stay in Montreal if sold

Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard issued an appeal Thursday to the founder of the Cirque du soleil to keep its head office in Montreal.

Couillard told reporters in Quebec City that Guy Laliberte is one of Quebec's great entrepreneurs and the Cirque is a huge source of pride for the province. The premier said it's not only important that the international headquarters and its almost 1,500 workers stay in Montreal, but that the Cirque's

creative activities should also remain in the city.

The Globe and Mail reported that bidders have been given until next week to submit offers to purchase Laliberte's controlling stake in the Cirque.

The newspaper cited sources as saying Laliberte has agreed to sell all but 10 per cent of his share. Laliberte owns 90 per cent of the internationally renowned Cirque, with the rest controlled by investors in Dubai. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Listeria scare

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says a chicken product is being recalled due to concerns about possible Listeria contamination. The affected product is Lilydale Inc. brand Oven Roasted Carved Chicken Breast in 400-gram packages with a best-before date of April 28, 2015. The CFIA says the product was distributed in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. The agency says there have been no reported illnesses linked to eating this product. Listeria symptoms include vomiting, nausea, fever, muscle aches, severe headache and neck stiffness.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

	DOLLAR 80.19¢ (+0.30¢)
	TSX 14,869.80 (-59.57)
	OIL \$51.43 US (+\$2.22)
	GOLD \$1,204.80 US (+\$7.80)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.672 US (-5.1¢)
DOW JONES: 17,678.23 (-40.31)



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Vince Gasparro's: The kind of place that makes a neighbourhood.

Nick Gasparro had a hard time keeping up a phone conversation on Thursday behind the counter of his family butcher shop. Customers kept walking into the store, some in search of an Easter ham, others offering their condolences on the recent death of Vincenzo Gasparro, Nick's father and the founder of the family business. "Hold on," Nick, 42, said to me over the phone.

Then I heard a woman's voice. "I just found out yesterday about your dad. I'm so sorry," she said.

"Thank you," Nick said. "Thank you for coming, honey."

Vince Gasparro's Meat Market has stood on Toronto's west-end corner of Bloor Street and Roxton Road since 1960. And it's exactly the kind of place that makes a neighbourhood worth living in.

They're in every Canadian city. Mom-and-pop shops, they're called dismissively.

They're not the country's economic leaders, if you go by GDP. Most of that is driven by mid-sized or large companies, as CIBC economist Benjamin Tal noted. Industry Canada doesn't even break down the contribution of companies with less than 49 employees (a group which makes up 30 per cent of the GDP).

But these micro-businesses also account for 75 per cent of companies that employ people in Canada. They are nimble, adaptable, the economic equivalent of the "oil that oils

the machine," Tal said.

Plus, he added, "there are some things that you cannot measure."

For example, what does it mean when longtime customer Vanessa, 34, calls the butcher shop "an institution"?

How do you measure the impact of hiring the likes of 24-year-old Mik, who is also a musician, by offering him a flexible, reliable part-time job while he pursues his dreams?

What is the worth of a man like Vince, who knew everybody's name, and their kids, and their grandkids; who took IOUs when customers were short at the end of the month; who went to the funerals and wedding of his customers, and whose customers, in turn, filled an old stone church one rainy morning this week? These are intangibles, but they have an economic impact just by drawing people to want to call this corner of a city home.

It's challenging times for independent shops forced to compete against national chains with deep pockets. But without these kinds of businesses, and the people who run them, our cities would be all the more uniform, all the less human.

I asked Nick, who has been a butcher with his father for 20 years, how long he wanted to keep the store going.

"I don't know that, honey, for as long as I'm going to be here," he said. "Hopefully a long time."

Strange love

THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



I used to think online dating was an inorganic and awkward way to meet people.

"Hello, my computer says we might get along, would you like to eat pho together?"

And maybe it is a little weird, but on second thought, the new-ish phenomenon of apps such as Tinder and OkCupid look totally natural when compared to the age-old art form of matchmaking.

Two B.C. women are asking for their money back after paying a matchmaking service, LifeMates Canada, thousands of dollars to find them Mr. Right ... or at least Mr. Pretty Good. Both women claim that LifeMates set them up on dates with men that came nowhere near to what they'd asked for.

While I feel for the women involved, I don't think they should get their money back because in the words of the Beatles: Can't Buy Me Love.

I hated the movie Inception; I have other friends who thought it was a masterpiece. I think John Fluevog shoes are an affront to the feet they're worn on; I have a friend who won't wear any other brand. If movies and shoes are subjective, why would anyone think we could agree on who's lovable?

I went on a blind date once. My friends told me the guy was tall, dark and cute. I pictured Tom Cruise (on stilts). When I got to the date, my heart sank. The guy wasn't ugly — he was attractive — but he wasn't what I had pictured and he wasn't my type. What is my type? Ha! I wouldn't be able to tell you until I saw it and even then I probably wouldn't be

able to pinpoint what it was about that person that caught my eye.

This isn't only about looks. A man who's "funny" to some, might be a Yakov Smirnoff to others. Maybe he's a "great cook," but he cooks vegan and you like steak. There are a million reasons why a good quality on paper might not live up to itself in real life. And what about pheromones and body language and fashion choices? Your date might be nice and cute and smart, but you're too distracted by the socks-and-sandals look to notice.

I've dated online and yes, there were (many) times I was disappointed in that scenario, too. Maybe the guy didn't look like his photo or his funny email banter translated to awkward real-life conversation. One guy kept making racist jokes while another somehow had me paying for

everything (actually, I think that was the same guy). But on my way home from those dates, at least I knew I had chosen those men.

I had no one to blame for the losers I was dating but myself.

Matchmakers are middlemen while online dating services basically act as a directory of "who's single." You peruse, you choose. Compared to LifeMates Canada, OkCupid looks as natural as a drug-free birth.

If I can't trust the people who know me best to buy me a sweater I like for Christmas, why would anyone trust a stranger to find them love?

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

Happy face/Sad face

From **naked neighbours** to **cat lady whisperers**, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



Grin and bare it

People in Charlotte, N.C., will not get a reprieve from the sight of their neighbour standing buck naked by his doorway several times a week. Police say that while the local law prohibits being nude in places the public has access to, there's nothing that can be done in this case. Maybe it's time for the local residents association to take matters into their own hands and strategically plant some shrubbery in front of naked dude's yard.



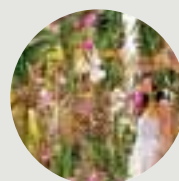
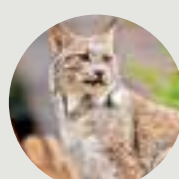
Beginning of the end (fingers crossed)

In what's been heralded as an important step in eliminating the virus for good, researchers "deleted" HIV from human DNA. The scientists used a DNA-snipping enzyme to cut out the virus, and then the cell's repair machinery took over, fusing the cell back together. And as if this isn't excellent enough, the process potentially could be applied to many other diseases. Not bad scientists, not bad.



Hey kitty kitty kitty

Hey guys, can we drop the crazy cat-lady trope already? Beth-Ann Colebourne delighted the Internet this week when she posted a video to YouTube of a lynx she spotted outside her northern Ontario shop. But then a bunch of meaneys questioned her sanity because she says things in the video like, "What's up, buddy?" to the wild cat. Listen, trolls: Colebourne has chased a bear away before. She is an animal whisperer. She's awesome, and she's got it covered, OK?



A whole new world

Are you in desperate need of a break from the repetitive monotony of your life, daydreaming of perhaps being on a palm-tree lined beach? And you know how even if you can't immediately make that place your reality, just the thought of being there makes you feel so much better? Expand your fantasy repertoire with this new Japanese exhibit. Artists created an immersive interactive garden of 2,300 floating flowers inspired by a Zen koan. Domo arigato, guys, for creating a beautiful world where person and flower become one.

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Ferrell's fearless with the funny

GET HARD

Comedian is always up for slapstick promo stunts

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



You can tell Will Ferrell has a new movie coming out because he's doing the darndest things.

On March 12, he played for 10 Major League Baseball teams in five spring training games in one day. Since then he's roasted Justin Bieber, walked red carpets at South By Southwest, dressed as a leprechaun with David Letterman, appeared on The Tonight Show in drag as snack cake queen Little Debbie, and traded barbs with Jon Stewart while wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with dozens of pictures of Zach Galifianakis.

He's pulling out all the stops to make sure everyone knows Get Hard, his comedy about a rich man who hires a coach (Kevin Hart) to prep him for prison, opens this weekend.

A few years ago, I landed in the middle of one of Ferrell's outlandish publicity stunts.

In July 2012 he was stumping for The Campaign, a political satire co-starring Galifianakis. The hot-and-steamy Toronto summer afternoon began with the actors riding down Yonge Street, throw-



Sitting on a bucket with his pants down? No big deal for Ferrell. Get Hard opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

ing out campaign buttons to passersby until they arrived at the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Inside, I hosted a press conference with them and Mayor Rob Ford. Onstage, actors posing as Mounties guarded the Stanley Cup as Ford, then the most famous, and controversial, politician in Canada, gave the guys advice on how to campaign. Nothing was rehearsed and everyone was a bit nervous as I brought the three to the dais.

Ferrell talked about what

happened next on the Late Show with David Letterman.

"We step up to the mic. We're supposed to say a few words, and I say, 'How about a big round of applause for your mayor, Rob Ford.' It was literally ... not even a smattering of applause, just two people."

"It was just so silent that I actually had to comment on it. So I said, 'Mr. Mayor, that's a horrible ovation,' and the press corps burst out laughing. And he was just laughing.

66

It was just so silent that I actually had to comment on it. So I said, 'Mr. Mayor, that's a horrible ovation.'

Will Ferrell on doing a stunt with Rob Ford

He didn't care. Just sweaty."

Ford was a good sport and played along. He gave them each a miniature Stanley Cup, pinned "Rob Ford for Mayor" buttons on their chests and handed out his famous business cards, fridge



magnets and bumper stickers before imparting some sage advice.

"It's very simple. Every person you meet, hand out a magnet and business card, and return people's phone calls. Customer service is No. 1" With a laugh he added, "and don't talk to the Toronto Star."

It may not have been the smoothest promotional stunt of all time, but it certainly was a memorable one.

The next year, Ferrell worked Ford into the promotion for Anchorman 2. By this time Ford's scandal-ridden term in office, fuelled by admissions of drug use, had rocketed him into the international spotlight.

Ferrell, in character as ridiculous San Diego newscaster Ron Burgundy, came out in support of Ford's re-election.

"Ron doesn't realize how much trouble Rob Ford is in," said Ferrell to Metro.

"He just thinks he's a great guy. Gregarious. Fun. Life of the party. Ron's advice would just be 'Keep doing what you're doing, it's obviously working.'"

He even wrote a campaign song to the tune of Loverboy's Working for the Weekend.

As usual, Ford took it all in stride, tweeting, "I had to laugh at my friend Ron Burgundy & his take on my 2014 re-election campaign song."

There's been no mention of Rob Ford in the promotion for Get Hard, but if Ferrell ever makes The Campaign 2: The Re-Election perhaps he'll give the former mayor a call.



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Getting a real feel for movies

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Virtual reality technology catches eye of filmmakers

Matt Kwong
Metro | Life

Comfy seating. Hot popcorn. And a stereoscopic virtual-reality headset for your viewing pleasure. It's a new cinematic experience envisioned by Hollywood and electronics manufacturers keen to tap into the hot VR market.

In recent years, Microsoft, Sony, Facebook, Google and Samsung have assumed a "gold-rush mentality" for VR, tech analyst Kevin Restivo said.

"As the core technology becomes refined for the masses, they're looking for wider applications," he said. "The movies are an obvious one."

Whereas the usual movie-watching experience is a one-directional affair, VR lets you step inside a scene, giving you the feeling you can move around in a film's environment. If you see an image on screen, or if a character is to your left, you can turn your head instead to the right and explore your surroundings with a 360-degree view.

The technology definitely caught the interest of attendees at this year's Sundance film festival.

A section dedicated to VR filmmaking was a main attraction at the fest. Users donned 3D wraparound goggles to experience an original scene from Wild between Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern.

Last month, premium cable network HBO and Lionsgate, the studio behind the \$1.5-billion Hunger Games franchise, announced content creation deals for HTC's much-hyped Vive system.

Beyond gaming, it's "the next logical step" for the Vive, said Jeff Gattis, an HTC spokesman.

"We can take content and brands that are known, and just open up new windows of entertainment," he said. "Whether that's going to be full features or clips, at a minimum, it's the creation of immersive virtual reality experiences."

That immersion aspect is what most excites Tre Azam. His U.K. company manufactures MyndPlay, a brainwave-sensing headband which, when used with VR displays such as the Oculus, allows a viewer to "change the storyline" of a video based on emotional responses.

"We've got a MyndGuardian video that puts you into an attack scenario where you're being mugged," Azam said. "You can train your mind into going into fight or flight mode. Maybe you want to defend yourself instead of panicking."

Developers, he said, have built some videos with 32 possible interactions.

"Imagine you've got a

90-minute movie where every scene could have a different possibility thrown in," he said.

So far, studios have been mostly leveraging VR experiences to hype up their big productions.

In collaboration with Lionsgate, Samsung's Gear VR device released a short on March 20 to promote the second film in its popular Divergent series.

Insurgent: Shatter Reality starred actors reprising their roles from the films.

HBO has experimented with short movie-making for VR headsets as well.

Attendees at last year's South By Southwest lined up to demo a Game of Thrones experience using Facebook's Oculus Rift VR headset. Users joined the Night's Watch and climbed a ladder to the top of the 700-foot ice wall.

As for when full-length VR feature films might ever take off as main cinematic attractions? That's hard to tell, said independent filmmaker Elli Raynai, who is completing his VR short for the Oculus Rift.

"I don't know if virtual reality is going to replace cinema," Raynai said. "All I know is it has different rules, it presents a new way of telling stories, and that's exciting for filmmakers."

+ Q&A

Cinephile Jesse Wentz, director of film programs at TIFF Bell Lightbox shared some thoughts on the technology.

On the lasting power of VR films: "I think we're a little early in the days to dismiss it as a gimmick."

On the solitude aspect of VR: "I think you'd be hard-pressed to create a physical communal experience if the idea is total immersion in a virtual world."

On the difference between VR and cinema:

"I wouldn't rule out some kind of future in which virtual reality can offer something similar to the movie-going experience. But ultimately, seeing a movie is seeing a moving in cinema. There's been no way to recreate it for 100 years."

MATT KWONG/METRO



A scene from Insurgent: Shatter Reality for Samsung's Gear VR.

VIRTUAL REALITY

A look at the VR headsets

1 Oculus Rift/Facebook (formerly Oculus Rift) Two development kits released. No consumer release date yet. DK2 costs \$350.

2 Project Morpheus/Sony Head-mounted display to be compatible with PlayStation 4 and PlayStation Vita gaming consoles. Anticipated early 2016 release.

3 Google Cardboard/Google Google's DIY device folds out from a piece of cardboard to turn a smartphone into a

VR headset. Users can download the app and either purchase a toolkit online, or build one themselves by following free online tutorials.

4 The Vive/HTC Marketed as a "premium" virtual reality experience, and powered by SteamVR. Anticipated release in the spring.

5 Samsung Gear VR/Samsung This is the first head-mounted display to hit the market, and costs \$199 US. The headmount was specifically designed to work with a Galaxy Note 4 smartphone.

6 Virtual Boy/Nintendo Released in 1995, then quickly discontinued the following year after poor sales and reports that some players were experiencing headaches from overuse. Originally retailed for around \$180 US.

PHOTOS COURTESY
HTC AND CANADIAN
FILM CENTRE

“Imagine you’ve got a 90-minute movie where every scene could have a different possibility thrown in

Tre Azam of Myndplay



Crack up with Ferrell and Hart

MOVIES

Stars of Get Hard get you laughing. What else is new?

Will Ferrell and Kevin Hart have made names for themselves for being hilarious on film and TV screens, but can they be funny on paper? We sat down to chat with the Get Hard stars to find out. You be the judge.

Reporter sits down, places digital recorder on table...

Will Ferrell: Is everyone cool with this? It's a Sony product ...
Kevin Hart: Will, that's not ... you didn't have to go there.
Ferrell: Sorry.

Kevin, when are we going to get a movie where somebody's helping you out?

Hart: That's tough, man. I like to be in charge. You know, me and Denzel have this thing about being in charge. I'm talking about

doing Equalizer, the next one. Equalizer: Part 2.

Ferrell: I love it.

Hart: Re-equalizer is what they call it. It's called Equal Plus Equal.

Ferrell: You're not going to get any argument from me.

Hart: No, you know what? I've started out in a place with characters where it was constantly reacting, reacting, reacting, and now it's in a place where the characters are a little bit more grounded and relatable. If this pattern continues to go, of course I think you'll see it flop.

But in this particular film I'm playing two characters in the movie, so I love that I'm giving audiences the best of both worlds. As is Will.

He's all right, I guess.

Hart: Well, in this movie I think he could've been better, but at this point you take what you can.

Ferrell: I did not give my best effort, I'm not going to lie.

Hart: Every day, Will showed up and was like, "I don't know about you, but I'm here for the

cheque." That's what he would say, every day, and I was like, "What the f— was that?"

Ferrell: I kept checking to make sure I was going to make the Pelicans game. Because we shot in New Orleans. But we were never butting heads in terms of comedy style or whatever.

Hart: Well, there was the one time when you were like, "I'm going to my f—ing trailer. Kevin's up seven to nothing." He kept score.

Ferrell: I count the lines. I'll go through a script and I'll count the lines. I told Kevin first thing, "Hey, we're going to have a great time, but I have counted the lines and I have 30 more lines than you, and I feel good about that." I don't feel like that's too many more lines.

So how did he get ahead in the count?

Ferrell: I just noticed. One day he was just coming up with all this great stuff, and I was down seven. So I just ended that. We wrapped at 11:30 a.m. that day.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO



Catch Kevin Hart and Will Ferrell in *Get Hard* when it hits theatres this Friday. CONTRIBUTED

REAL GET HARD

Consultant shares jail myths

Lee Steven Chapelle had heard of *Get Hard*, a new flick about a white-collar criminal prepping for a prison sentence, but was surprised to learn it was a comedy.

Chapelle is a real-life prison consultant based in Ottawa who works with the soon-to-be incarcerated and their families to ensure their time in jail is as safe, productive and brief as possible. He has spent roughly 21 years total in prison. He was first convicted at 16.

Now, Chapelle is an author and active advocate for inmates' rights. He says he only takes on clients he believes are sincere in their desire for rehabilitation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Picking fights

Collective wisdom seems to suggest that freshly incarcerated individuals should testify to their tenacity by attacking someone. "If you're a person who's built to be able to do that, great," says a chuckling Chapelle. But such aggressiveness will only make it harder for inmates to campaign for parole later.

Instead, he recommends that those new to prison mind their own business.

Jail scares kids

Chapelle was a middle-class kid who stirred minor trouble as an adolescent before being convicted at 16 of a property crime. "My parents thought, 'OK, tough love, we're going to leave you in this detention centre,'" he says, recalling his two-month stint. "By the time I came out, I was completely anti-establishment." He ended up spending roughly a total of 21 years in jail.

Canada versus the world

Particularly irksome for Chapelle is the idea that Canadian jails are somehow less bleak than prisons elsewhere. "We have our highest inmate population total in the history of Canada right now and the infrastructure is busting," he says. "You're sleeping with your head by a toilet because there's three or sometimes four to a cell."



So many men, so much talent

INTERVIEW

Actress Patricia Clarkson gushes about co-stars in October Gale

Patricia Clarkson's new thriller, *October Gale*, sees her working again with director Ruba Nadda, and starring opposite Callum Keith Rennie, Tim Roth and Scott Speedman.

"Can you imagine I got to be in a film with those men?" she says. "I arrived on the set and said, 'Oh my God, Ruba, I have died and gone to heaven.' Not only are they beautiful men, physically, but if you threw all their handsomeness out the window, they're gorgeous actors. First class ... singular actors."

The New Orleans native, an Academy Award nominee for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in *Pieces of April*, plays a doctor mourning the loss of her husband. For solace she retreats to a remote cottage in Georgian Bay. Her time of quiet reflection and healing is



Scott Speedman and Patricia Clarkson in *October Gale*. CONTRIBUTED

disrupted, however, by the appearance of a mysterious and seriously injured young man, played by Speedman.

October Gale is the second collaboration between Clarkson and director Ruba Nadda.

"Ruba and I are very similar gals," Clarkson says.

"We like our hair and our lipstick and our high heels. I have

four older sisters and Rubba is truly like the little sister I never had. We are like family. We have a second language now. It's kismet. "I think I'm just the luckiest gal to know her and to have her so deeply in my life; in my professional life, in my personal life. I know her family now. I know her sisters ... We're just family and yet we are able to separate

“
She's Syrian-Palestinian and I'm Southern, so watch out

Patricia Clarkson on her relationship with Ruba Nadda

all of that when we enter the workplace. We're both workhorses. We're very high energy, we don't take no for an answer, we'll fight to the death. She's Syrian-Palestinian and I'm Southern, so watch out."

Their first film together, *Cairo Time*, was the Best Reviewed Romance on Rotten Tomatoes for 2010 and soon they will begin

work on a series for HBO. Clarkson says her on-set relationship with Nadda is based on respect and the director's unique vision.

"Ruba has the courage to make films that people want to make," she says, "the kind of movies auteurs think they're making, but she actually has the courage to do it."

RICHARD CROUSE/METRO

+ IN BRIEF

Steven Spielberg to direct *Ready Player One*

Deadline reports that the man who has helmed everything from *Jaws* and *E.T.* to *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Minority Report* is about to get to grips with an adaptation of the cult sci-fi novel.

Written by Ernest Cline and set in a dystopian 2044, *Ready Player One* revolves largely around a virtual reality game focused on references to 1980s pop culture. And, as Deadline points out, some of those references are to Spielberg himself. It is understood that the film will be the next cinematic project in Spielberg's schedule following the completion of his current film — a big-screen adaptation of Roald Dahl's children's story *The BFG*. AFP

Mad Max to make long-awaited comeback at Cannes

Mad Max: Fury Road, the fourth film in the dystopian cult saga by director George Miller, will screen on May 14 at the Cannes Film Festival.



Mad Max is returning May 14.

WARNER BROS PICTURES

tival, the organizers confirmed Wednesday. Thirty

years after he first rode on to cinema screens across the globe, "Mad" Max Rockatansky returns in the shape of English actor Tom Hardy, who replaces Mel Gibson, the star of the previous instalments.

The film is due for global release immediately after its out-of-competition screening preview in Cannes, the festival said. The announcement marks the long-awaited return of Australian director George Miller, 70, whose first *Mad Max* film became a worldwide hit in 1979. AFP

Fully animated *Smurfs* reboot announced

The new movie is scheduled to hit cinema screens on March 31, 2017 and promises to be closer to the original Peyo comic books than Sony's previous two attempts. Sony's 2011 *The Smurfs*, and its 2013 sequel *The Smurfs 2*, mixed animation with live action and, in the case of the latter, Katy Perry. According to director Kelly Asbury, this hybrid approach is being dumped in favour of traditional animation for the next instalment,



Smurf fans will get another film in 2017. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS as is any connection with the films that have preceded it. AFP

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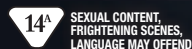
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Trailer Park Boys cleaning up act

SERIES

Season 9 will be released on Netflix this Friday

Aly Thomson
Metro

When Ricky of Sunnyvale Trailer Park gets out of jail on Friday, he's going to do something he's never done before: get a real job.

"I actually took some courses that are going to help me get a job. I took this course that helps you work with flowers so I might work at a flower store," said Ricky in a recent "interview from jail."

"I'm going to try and not do any crime and I just want to hang out with my grandson once he gets born."

Ricky (Robb Wells), Julian (John Paul Tremblay) and Bubbles (Mike Smith), who stayed in character for this interview, are back with Season 9 of the hugely successful Trailer Park Boys. The show will be released

Friday on Netflix.

Last season ended just as most others — with the infamous trailer park trio going back to jail.

But this time around, their stay on the inside appears to have had a positive impact.

Ricky and Julian are unusually optimistic about leading a crime-free life — a curious mindset for the career convicts, who usually commit just as many crimes in jail as outside.

Julian, who ended last season with shares of the park and a booming trailer-based bar and gym, says he plans to focus on his business.

"I spent a lot of time studying in here so when I get out I want to expand my business," said Julian, referring to Julian's Sports Bar and Gym.

"I think if I can expand the business, maybe open up some other ones around the Atlantic provinces, I think I'll be retired in three or four years."

But the boys are bound to fall into their old habits, especially with hints of trouble back in Sunnyvale.

"Things started out good, but then things changed a little bit and I'm just trying to deal with

it all," said Bubbles, who was released from jail months ago.

"I can't really talk about it right now because Julian is here and there's some things I don't particularly want him to know."

Sunnyvale's most hated alcoholic, Jim Lahey, was also taken away in a police cruiser last season after his plan to put the boys behind bars backfired when it was revealed that Lahey's ex-police partner George Green was working undercover.



Things have been getting a little out of hand.

Bubbles

"I was going to try and kill (Lahey) in jail, but they kept him away from me after that. It turned into a mess. I got stabbed with a screwdriver," said Ricky. "If Lahey doesn't mess with me, I'm going to try not to mess with him."

"But if he does mess with me, it's not going to be pretty."



Bubbles (Mike Smith) from Trailer Park Boys. The new season starts Friday. CONTRIBUTED

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HORROR It Follows

Director: David Robert Mitchell
Starring: Maika Monroe, Keir Gilchrist

After a strange sexual encounter, a teenager finds herself haunted by nightmarish visions and the inescapable sense that something is after her.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 94% Audience: 72%



ANIMATED Home

Director: Tim Johnson
Starring: Jim Parsons, Rihanna

When Oh, a lovable misfit from another planet, lands on Earth and finds himself on the run, he forms an unlikely friendship with a girl named Tip who is on a quest of her own. Through a series of adventures with Tip, Oh comes to understand that being different and making mistakes is all part of being human.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 40% Audience: 69%



COMEDY Get Hard

Director: Etan Cohen
Starring: Will Ferrell, Kevin Hart

Will Ferrell and Kevin Hart headline this Warner Bros. comedy about a wrongfully convicted investment banker who prepares for prison life with the help of the man who washes his car. Etan Cohen directs, with Ian Roberts and Jay Martel handling screenwriting duties.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 28% Audience: +95%



Linda Cardellini says the Florida Keys location of *Bloodline* is as much a part of the show as the cast. GETTY IMAGES

“You don’t have to make an appointment with the television”

Linda Cardellini on the joys of binge watching



Kyle Chandler and Cardellini in Netflix's *Bloodline*. SAEED ADYANI / NETFLIX

Linda finds the Keys to her heart

INTERVIEW

Star of Netflix's *Bloodline* is enthralled by Florida locale

Richard Crouse
Metro | Canada

Linda Cardellini's new show is filmed far from Hollywood. The former *Mad Men* co-star plays Meg Rayburn, wayward daughter of a large, secretive family in the Netflix series *Bloodline*. She co-stars with Kyle Chandler, Sam Shepard and Sissy Spacek, but says the Florida Keys location is as much a part of the show as the cast.

"It is otherworldly. It is different from anything I have known," she says.

"It is a place that has a duality to it. On one hand, it is extraordinarily beautiful and on the other there is this oppressive heat and slight danger that follows you around everywhere. When you're in the elements, there are a lot of things around you that are sometimes friendly to human beings and sometimes not so much. It's perfect for the show because it really shows

this paradise and on the other side there are these really dangerous things."

When she was first approached to do the *Bloodline*, there wasn't even a script for her to read.

"There was a pitch," she says, "and I had a meeting with (producer) Glen Kessler and he spoke so beautifully with so much rich detail about who this person is, what she means to the family, what the story means. To me, that was very exciting — how much he had to say and how much he knew."

"It showed to me that the creators of the show were very interested in each and every one of the characters. To have the family dynamic be appealing you have to understand every facet of the family."

The pitch won her over, in part because she had just binge watched the legal drama *Damages*, the last show from the same producers.

"When I watched *Damages*, I loved how they wrote for women," she says.

"I thought what could have been viewed as a stereotype was introduced and explored in such a fashion that broke all those stereotypes and broke all those glass ceilings about what a female character could or couldn't be. To me that was very exciting"

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SCIENCE

Another smoking-type coverup? 'Trust me, in the next 10 years'

Often, the doctors and scientists are pushed by patients themselves.

The story of radical mastectomy for breast cancer is particularly illuminating, how it went from the universally accepted treatment with naysayers ridiculed until other, less invasive approaches were proven effective.

The film *The Emperor of All Maladies* by Ken Burns discusses the groundbreaking surgeon general's report in the 1960s strongly linking cigarette smoking to cancer and the slow but steady reduction, at least in the United States, of probably the best-known carcinogen.

"You could say, 'Does that matter?'" Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee said.

"Trust me, in the next 10 years we will find yet another new carcinogen being somewhere that we don't know about and a company that's eager to obfuscate on its origins, and the lessons from what we learned about cigarettes will apply all over again."

Sharon Rockefeller, president and CEO of PBS' influential Washington affiliate WETA, read Mukherjee's book while she was



Executive producer Ken Burns. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

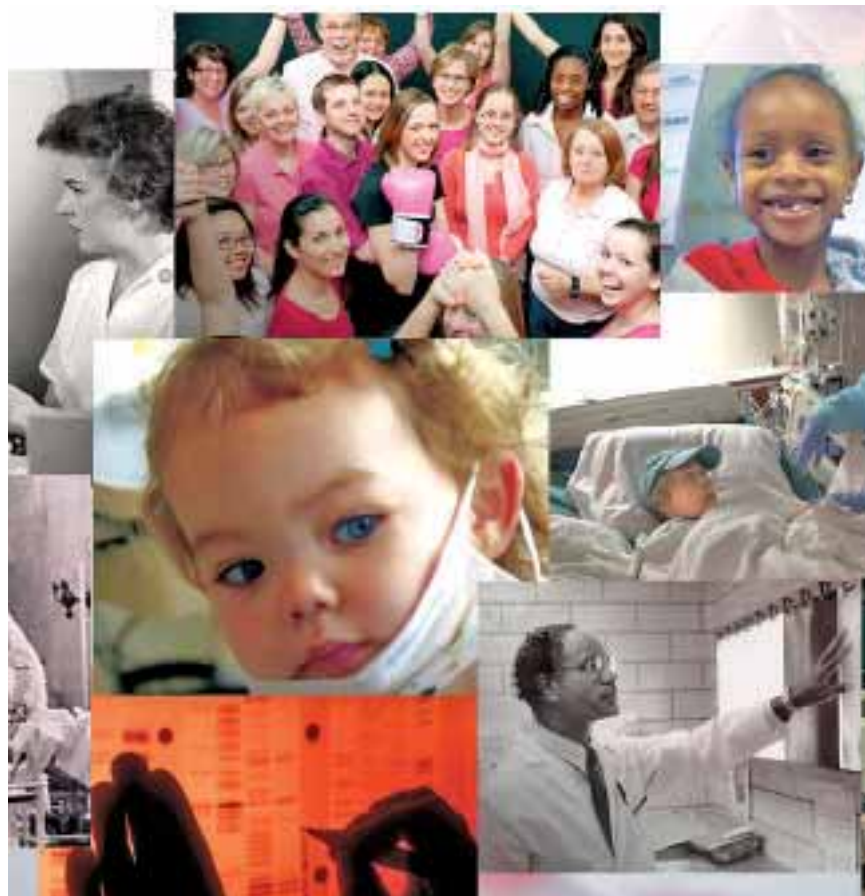
being treated for colon cancer, caught just weeks before becoming incurable. With Laura Ziskin, the late co-founder of *Stand Up to Cancer*, they resolved to see the book turned into a film.

The documentary is one that its own makers hope becomes outdated quickly by the advance of new research. Perhaps it can have an impact on a trend that Mukherjee sees as particularly alarming: funding cuts to cancer research at a crucial moment for understanding the disease.

He's concerned that the best scientists will be drawn to more lucrative work. Still, Mukherjee was positive when asked if he was more or less optimistic about the fight against cancer than when he was writing his book.

"I'm immensely optimistic not because politics has proved that way, but because patient advocacy and science have moved that way," he said. "I'm optimistic despite the political realm."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The *Emperor of All Maladies* is like a State of the Union address on cancer. The three-part series will premiere on PBS on Monday. COURTESY PBS

One of our biggest fears, confronted

DOCUMENTARY

The Emperor of all Maladies takes a hard look at cancer

There's a mystery to cancer, in large part because of fear, that PBS tries to unravel in next week's six-hour documentary *Cancer: The Emperor of All Maladies*.

"We're not really honest with each other," filmmaker Ken Burns said.

"We know about heart disease. We know about diabetes. We know about other things, but there's a kind of resistance because cancer is so scary."

Burns, who was 11 when his mother died of breast cancer, is executive producer of the film, directed by Barak Goodman. It's one of the few times Burns has been involved in a project that he didn't instigate.

The film airs over three consecutive nights beginning on March 30 and is inspired

by Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee's Pulitzer Prize-winning book of the same title.

Starting at its most elemental — how cancer got its name — the documentary tells the story of advances and setbacks in years of research on how the disease develops and is treated, through developments since Mukherjee's book was published in 2010.

Mukherjee sees it as a State of the Union address on cancer, a topic with a reach and complexity that can make the entirety of the federal government seem simple in comparison.

The film softens the science with individual stories of people fighting for their survival.

Cancer proves an elusive and resilient enemy. Much of the promising research has been done since the 1970s, establishing that the cell mutations that characterize the disease can be triggered by genetics, the environment or a virus.

Treatments that once seemed promising proved



The history of cancer has been littered with false dawns

Barak Goodman

disappointing.

Some had limited success. Immunotherapy, the use of a person's own immune system to fight cancer cells, is so new that it barely received a mention in Mukherjee's book but gets a thorough telling in the film.

The film follows the story of the very first child ever to receive a new treatment to attack cancer cells.

"The history of cancer has been littered with false dawns with, as our film discusses, moments of great optimism followed by immediately crashing disillusionment," Goodman said.

"So we did have to be very careful about those we chose to follow."

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What's next for Shailene

Still basking in the box-office success of *Insurgent*, Shailene Woodley just might outdo herself after the franchise ends. Judging by her peers Jennifer Lawrence and Kristen Stewart, who both went from blockbuster franchises to award-winning careers, it's entirely possible. AFP



Shailene Woodley's star is on the rise. ALL PHOTOS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/GETTY

Oscar glow like Jennifer Lawrence

The parallels between *Divergent* and *The Hunger Games* are obvious: both are sci-fi adventure stories with a strong-willed female protagonist and a dystopian setting. But there are also parallels between the career paths of the two stars: Woodley and Jennifer Lawrence. Both made a name for themselves on the big screen before age 20 thanks to indie roles. Lawrence claimed her first Oscar nomination for *Winter's Bone*, while Woodley grabbed a Golden Globe nomination for *The Descendants*, in which she co-starred with George Clooney.



Eclectic roles like Kristen Stewart

Woodley and Lawrence both call to mind another actress who rose to global stardom in a high-grossing franchise: former *Twilight* star Kristen Stewart. Since the last *Twilight* movie, the actress has appeared in Walter Salles' adaptation of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, a film that took her to the Cannes Film Festival in 2012. After *Snow White and the Huntsman*, Stewart has graced the screen in a number of acclaimed films, including *Silence* by French director Olivier Assayas and *Still Alice* with Julianne Moore.



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CARIBBEAN

What you need to experience before the island changes

Vawn Himmelsbach
Metro | Travel

Cuba is heating up. Flights, hotel rooms and even casas particulares, the Cuban version of B&Bs, are in demand. Scores of tourists from Canada are flocking to the country after U.S. President Obama announced plans to restore diplomatic ties with Cuba.

Once the border opens up to Americans, it's expected that prices will increase as demand exceeds supply.

Cuba's political and economic future is shifting, so if you want to get a glimpse of a bygone era before it's gone — a 1950s freeze frame where iPads and Starbucks don't exist — then now is the time to pack your bags.

Old Havana

The capital city, where most travellers flock, is already fairly touristy — though it's a photographer's dream with its 1950s classic cars and crumbling art nouveau and colonial architecture.

If you want to get a sense of how Cubans really live, wander around Centro Havana. It's safe and easily walkable (Cuba is not known for violent crime), but the blazing heat may force



Practise your Spanish and see some classic cars in the capital city, Havana. ISTOCK

you to stop for a coconut daiquiri or Cuba libre at one of Ernest Hemingway's former haunts — like El Floridita — to cool down.

Tour the coast

It's well worth venturing beyond Havana. Since you can't Google your way through this country (indeed, Gmail won't work here, even if you do find Wi-Fi), it means that hidden gems are still, in fact, hidden.

Since much of the country's environment has been protected, Cuba offers up pristine coastlines and wetlands. There's fear, however, that once borders open up and for-

eign developers move in, this could change. So now is the time to see a world relatively untouched by tourism — before it is.

Cuba has thousands of coral reefs that appear to be healthier than others in Caribbean waters thanks to decades of isolation from mass tourism, according to the Nature Conservancy. So you can snorkel around reefs where you'll encounter everything from stingrays to green sea turtles — maybe even a reef shark — with no other boat in sight.

The Cannarreos Archipelago

One way to do this is to sail

Cuba's coastline. Canadian tour operator G Adventures, for example, recently launched a sailing trip that allows small groups of travellers to explore the islands of the Canarreos Archipelago, many of which are uninhabited.

The archipelago is made up of more than 300 islands and islets, most of which are uninhabited.

Cayo Largo is the second-largest island, though it's only 26 kilometres long and three kilometres wide. Aside from stunning beaches, it's home to nesting sea turtles and flamingos.

Then there's Cayo Rico,

which is only accessible by boat. There's a beach bar here, but that's it. You can hang out with the iguanas and explore secluded coves that make you feel like you're on a deserted island (though pina colodas are never too far away).

Meet the people

While sun-seekers have been heading to the island nation on discounted all-inclusive resort packages for years, the best way to see the "real" Cuba before it changes is to get off the resort.

The locals easily live up to their reputation as some of the friendliest, most hospitable

+ HISTORY

- Cuba was once the playground for America's wealthy elite, who lived it up in Havana's five-star resorts and casinos. But that all changed after the Cuban Revolution of 1953, where socialism took root under Fidel Castro and Che Guevara.
- The U.S. established a trade embargo against Cuba in 1962 to reduce "the threat posed by its alignment with the communist powers," according to Proclamation 3447.

people on the planet, and it's a great way to practice your Spanish.

If you do opt to sail the coast, dock overnight at the marina in Cayo Largo and join the Cubans for a late-night dance party to pulsating Latin beats under a sky full of stars. Don't know how to salsa or do the cha-cha-cha? No matter. You won't have any problem finding someone who will be happy to show you.

While you'll enjoy fresh seafood on the coast, it's also a first-hand experience of Cuban ingenuity. Step into a Cuban supermarket and you won't find much. There are no Pringles or Snickers bars. There are few fresh vegetables. So to see your Cuban cook whip up new — and tasty — dishes each day out of limited ingredients (such as tinned veggies) really hits home how Cubans actually live under a U.S. trade embargo.



The Santa Monica beach. JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Beyond Santa Monica's famous old pier

DESTINATION

Classics and more to see in this paradise on L.A.'s edge

Planning a trip to Southern California but don't want to fight L.A. traffic? Check out the Santa Monica in all its picture-postcard beauty. From a funky old pier surrounded by some of the world's best beaches to its upscale shopping district,

scores of art galleries, top-rated restaurants and bountiful nightlife, there are enough things in this little oasis just 19 kilometres west of downtown Los Angeles to keep you not only occupied but enthralled.

What's new

Santa Monica Place: Transformed in 2010, this shopping mall is a bright, open-air gathering spot of upscale restaurants and stores that connects directly with the city's pedestrian-friendly Third Street

Promenade, forming the heart of Santa Monica's downtown.

Classic attractions

Start by making a beeline to Santa Monica Pier, the 99-year-old landmark with an entrance sign proclaiming it as the final stop on Route 66, the historic highway John Steinbeck declared America's Mother Road. Here you'll find everything from musicians, snake handlers, artists and other street performers, to quiet areas set aside for fishing. In the middle

of it all is an amusement park with a solar-powered Ferris wheel that carries riders 40 metres up.

Hanging out

On the way into town check out Bergamot Station Art Center. A collection of modest buildings near a maintenance yard in the section of town farthest from the beach, it's easy to overlook. But inside this 19th-century rail yard you'll find a small art museum and more than a dozen contempor-

ary galleries displaying photos, sculptures, paintings and more. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ IF YOU GO

Getting around

- Basic one-way fares on the city's Big Blue Bus system are \$1, with multiple-ride passes available at discounted prices. Visit bigbluebus.com for details.

Come for surf, stay for supper

TOFINO

B.C.'s beach town has been cultivating its culinary scene

One of the more memorable meals chef Tim May says he prepared in Tofino on British Columbia's remote West Coast was a wedding feast for a young couple who just eloped.

The newlyweds from Toronto exchanged vows on the beach, ran back to their honeymoon nest and watched as May, described locally as a culinary rock star, cooked their romantic dinner.

"It was kind of bizarre in a way because there's this couple and this is their wedding dinner," said May. "They just got married on the beach with the justice of the peace and then they come back to their little vacation home and here I am standing behind the bar cooking them dinner."

May is one of the many highly trained and visionary chefs who have migrated to the Vancouver Island coastal community known more for surfing and whale watching to contribute to a growing culinary scene that is adding more flavour to Tofino.



Tofino's residents are always searching for good food to fuel their bodies, according to chef Lisa Ahier who owns Tofino's SoBo. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Located 315 kilometres west of Victoria, Tofino, population 2,000, and neighbouring Ucluelet, population 1,600, are massive tourism destinations, with their rugged coastal beauty and endless beaches. The area explodes with visitors in the summer months, with estimates of 22,000 people in the area on some days in July and August.

The growing list of award-winning restaurants is a product of the many retreats that offer visitors first-class treatment within the velvet embrace of coastal rainforests and roaring waves. But ask May and others who came to Tofino for the chance to kick back on the beach year-round, it is the locals who drive the scene, wanting it

fresh, local and the best.

"Think of Vancouver Island as Europe," said May, who runs the RedCan Gourmet, an open-concept commercial kitchen where customers can interact with the chefs as they create West Coast dishes. "It's a New World Europe in a sense of the different kinds of micro climates and the farms that can grow certain things in



Tim May's fresh ground sirloin burger. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IF YOU GO

Hungry?

If you find yourself hungry in Tofino, check out: RedCan Gourmet and SoBo, Fresh Food From Here and There.

specific areas. That's what Vancouver Island is."

Chef Lisa Ahier, who owns Tofino's SoBo, billed as sophisticated bohemian, agreed it's the locals who created and support the community's top-notch foodie scene.

"I have never seen a town with this few residents that has such a high level, consistently, of cuisine," said Ahier, who started in Tofino in 2003 with a food

truck and now wins awards at her bricks-and-mortar location.

"The people who live here is why I do what I do," she said. "I set up my business 13 years ago for locals and the locals demand quality, the best fuel for their bodies. You can't fool our local clientele. They want good food that makes them feel great."

She's seen people who started in her restaurant as dishwashers and food preparation staff fall in love with the industry and open their own restaurants.

"Visitors can expect probably the freshest seafood they'll ever see," said Ahier, who recently published "The SoBo Cookbook."

"We have local people who harvest our gooseneck barnacles. Our oysters just came in 30 minutes ago. There's not a lot of transportation in our food. It's coming directly from the water to here."

May said local chefs pride themselves on working together even though they depend on the same customer base. The Tofino-Ucluelet Culinary Guild, which helps source the freshest and most in-season items for the restaurants, binds the locals, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRAVEL NOTES FROM AN AFRICAN SAFARI DEAL TO A NICARAGUAN ADVENTURE



African Safari sale

Intrepid Travel is offering 30 per cent off African safari adventures departing before June 30 if you book your trip by April 30. And it's not just two or three; there are more than 20 trips on sale, from seven days to 60: Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti, Victoria Falls and Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Nakuru and the Okavango Delta. Visit IntrepidTravel.com.

go Delta. Visit IntrepidTravel.com.

Nicaragua

"The Land of Lakes and Volcanoes" is gaining ground on Costa Rica and Panama as the new place to explore, and not just with the younger set looking for a cheap place to surf. Travellers wanting something different than the usual sun-



NICARAGUA TOURISM

spots will revel in the authenticity of Nicaragua. And since the turbulence of the 1970s and '80s, Nicaragua is now one of the safest countries in the region. May to October is the best time to go. Check out VisitNicaragua.us.

Scrubba Wash Bag

This looks like a dry bag, but it's actually a portable wash-

ing gizmo. Just add water, soap and your clothes, roll down the top a few times and clip the ends, expel the air inside, then scrub clothes clean in three minutes with the help of an internal, flexible washboard. \$59 at mec.ca. DOUG WALLACE



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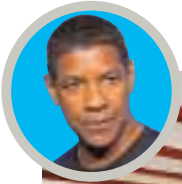
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Accommodation booking phenomenon Airbnb offers travellers a taste of where some of the world's great actors, artists and entrepreneurs have called home **LOREN CHRISTIE** METRO CANADA



Malibu, Calif. \$640 per night

This former home of **Denzel Washington**, singers **Captain and Tennille** and **Jimmy Page** sits on a bluff overlooking Broad Beach, one of the area's most famous surfing beaches. From the oversized outdoor patio, you can watch the dolphins play. If you're a partier, take note, Malibu City Hall has a strict 'no noise after 10 p.m.' ordinance, and they enforce it. The house comfortably sleeps eight. Pets welcome.



Pacific Grove, Calif. \$1,422 per week

This historic studio has a unique and rich literary history, having belonged to **John Steinbeck** in the early '40s. He wrote *The Sea of Cortez* while living here. The 350-square-foot studio has its original '20s architecture, which means short doorways and a warning for tall guests to "mind their heads." Located a kilometre from the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Cannery Row.



Omaha, Neb. Free?

You can win your chance to stay in the childhood home of **Warren Buffett**, one of the world's richest men, by entering an Air BnB on-line contest. See where the trail-blazing entrepreneur launched his first business selling chewing gum door-to-door at age six. The hook: You need to be a Berkshire Hathaway shareholder to enter. The rich keep getting richer for a reason!



Stone Ridge, N.Y. \$2,586 per week

Located by the Mohonk Preserve, the Rubber House was built for the famed choreographer **Eugene Loring**. It was then owned by actor **Willem Dafoe** who faithfully retained the original dance studio and industrial kitchen. Situated on seven acres, the house is nestled within a grouping of giant moss-covered prehistoric boulders. The listing suggests you'll need a car, bike or perhaps a horse to get around.

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FIGURE SKATING

Duhamel, Radford undefeated since Sochi

Canadians Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford have their perfect season.

Duhamel and Radford held off two Chinese teams in the free skate to capture gold in the pairs event on Thursday at the world figure skating championships in Shanghai.

After a seventh-place finish at the Sochi Games last year, Duhamel, from Lively, Ont., and Radford, from Balmerston, Ont., decided to continue their careers and skate another year — and haven't lost since.

They've won all six international events they've entered this season, including the Grand Prix Finals and Four Continents.

"Some dreams are so big that you can't even imagine them happening and it's all happening right now," said

Radford.

"I could never have imagined it and I can't tell if it's a dream or reality."

Duhamel and Radford, who won bronze at the previous two world championships, were the leaders after the short program. It is Canada's first pairs title since Jamie Sale and David Pelletier won in 2001.

"This is a very personal victory. Every single victory along the way this season had a very special meaning," Duhamel said.

Sui Wenjing and Han Cong of China finished second, and 35-year-old veterans Pang Qing and Tong Jian, competing in their 16th world championships, took home the bronze.

Pang and Tong, who came out of retirement this year to finish their careers in Shanghai, now have six world medals (two gold, one silver, three bronze) to go with their silver medal from the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

"I fulfilled (my partner's) wishes to come back to the rink," Tong said, before adding with a smile, "I certainly hope Pang Qing will not drag me back to the rink once again."

Also, Russian Elizaveta Tuktamysheva landed a triple Axel on her first leap of the figure skating world championships on Thursday, opening up a big lead over the rest of the field after the short program.

"When I landed the triple Axel, I got goosebumps and I thought, 'Is this a dream or did I really just do the triple Axel at the world championships?'" said Tuktamysheva, 18.

Only a handful of women skaters have successfully landed a triple Axel in international competition, among them Tonya Harding, Midori Ito and Mao Asada. Tuktamysheva landed the difficult jump in one of the biggest competitions of her career after only practising it for a couple months.

THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford of Canada skate their way to the gold medal during the pairs free skate at the world figure skating championships in Shanghai on Thursday. JOHANNES EISEL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

“

We've worked so hard to get here and it's amazing.

Eric Radford

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

WESMEN

ATHLETES of the YEAR

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STEPHANIE KLEYSEN

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR • BASKETBALL

WRESTLING • ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

FINN HIGGINS

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR • WRESTLING

CONGRATULATIONS

The University of Winnipeg Wesmen is pleased to announce that Women's Basketball player Stephanie Kleysen and Men's Wrestler Finn Higgins have been chosen as the 2014-2015 University of Winnipeg Wesmen Male and Female Athletes of the Year. The announcement was made Thursday, March 19th, at the annual Wesmen Athletic Awards Banquet held at the Radisson Hotel.



Dalton Pompey of the Blue Jays dives safely into third base past the Phillies' Andre Blanco in Dunedin, Fla., Thursday.

KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB SPRING TRAINING

Jays break out bats after Hamels pulled

Cole Hamels allowed two hits in five scoreless innings during the Philadelphia Phillies' 4-1 loss to the Toronto Blue Jays on Thursday.

A focus of trade speculation, Hamels didn't allow a hit until Kevin Pillar reached on an infield single leading off the fifth. Hamels picked off Pillar, Dalton Pompey tripled to left-centre field and Hamels struck out Jose Reyes.

Hamels, a four-time all-star, struck out four and walked three.

Steve Tolleson hit a grand slam off Ken Giles in the eighth.

Blue Jays starter Aaron Sanchez gave up one run, two

I'm not happy with the move, neither should I be, because I've had a pretty good spring so far.

Relief pitcher Steve Delabar who has been optioned to Triple-A Buffalo. The 31-year-old was an all-star in 2013, but struggled to replicate that success last season; he had a 4.91 ERA with the Blue Jays.

hits and one walk in 5-1/3 innings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Charlottetown's Saggo out of Poland card

Canadian lightweight Jason Saggo, from Charlottetown, has had to pull out of a UFC fight in Poland next month after rupturing his Achilles tendon in training. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terry staying on with Blues

Captain John Terry will be at Chelsea for at least one more season after earning a contract extension in recognition of his enduring value to the team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neymar strikes in Paris

Striker Neymar scored his 43rd international goal and midfielder Willian set up two as Brazil beat France 3-1 on Thursday in another step in rebuilding its credibility. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Neymar
GETTY IMAGES

RECIPE Chicken with Red Curry

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman



I love curry dishes because you can adjust the heat to whatever level your taste buds can handle!

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Bake time: 11 minutes

Directions

1. Dust chicken with 3 tbsp of flour. In large skillet sprayed with vegetable oil, sauté chicken for 3 minutes or just until no longer pink. Set aside.

2. In the same skillet, add oil and sauté onions, curry paste, ginger and garlic for 3 minutes, then add red bell pepper and sauté for 2 minutes. Set aside.

3. In a bowl, combine coconut milk, 2 tbsp flour, fish sauce and sugar and mix until flour has dissolved. Add to onion mixture along with chicken, and on a medium heat, cook just until sauce has slightly thickened, about 3 minutes.

4. Serve over cooked rice or noodles (if using) and garnish with chopped cashews and cilantro.

Ingredients

- 12 oz boneless, skinless chicken breast, sliced into 1/2-inch wide slices



- 5 tbsp all-purpose flour, divided
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 cups sliced onions
- 2 tbsp red curry paste or to taste
- 1 tbsp minced ginger
- 1 1/2 tsp minced garlic
- 2 cups sliced red bell peppers
- 1 1/2 cups canned light coconut milk
- 1 tbsp fish sauce
- 1 tsp brown sugar
- Garnish**
- 1/4 cup toasted chopped cashews
- 3 tbsp chopped cilantro
- 3 cups cooked rice or rice noodles (optional)

Nutrition per serving

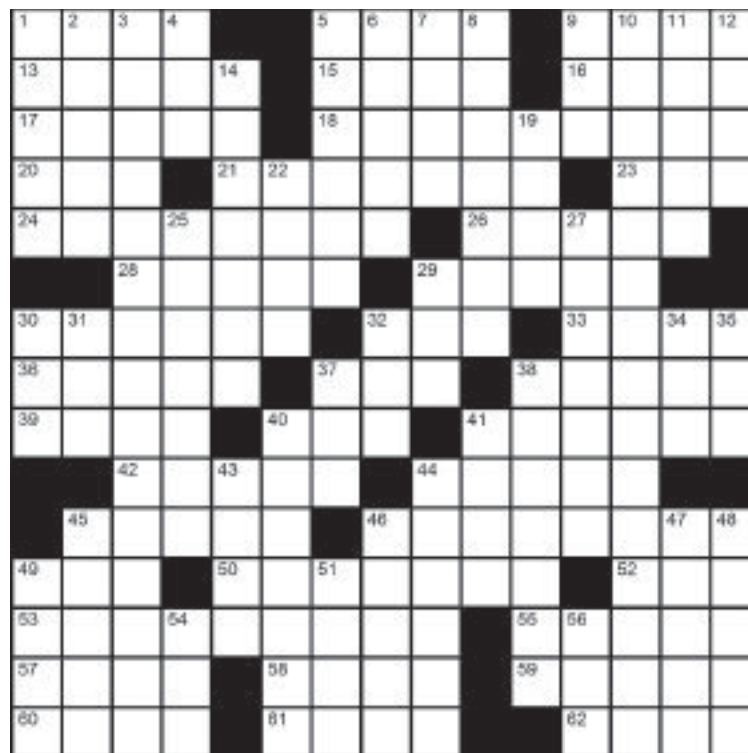
- Calories 352
- Protein 38.4 g
- Carbohydrates 18.8 g
- Fibre 3.1 g
- Total fat 13 g
- Saturated fat 4.9 g
- Cholesterol 250 mg
- Sodium 450 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

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- ACROSS**
- Canada's historic exports
 - British group, with Manfred
 - Island: Spanish
 - Clark's legendary 1939 movie role
 - Mr. Blacc of song
 - Irving and Grant
 - Place to connect in Chicago
 - Circus performer's prop: 2 wds.
 - South, in Portugal
 - Suspiciously
 - Tree of Hawaii
 - Michel __, Montreal Canadiens head coach
 - Movie mermaid
 - Chimney-like
 - Stew
 - "Dis-Moi, Dis-Moi" chanteuse
 - It gets pumped
 - Music key, __
 - Purport
 - Wickedness
 - Celebrity chef Guy
 - Apportion
 - Wear
 - Magician
 - TV actor Rob
 - Actress Ms. Brewster
 - He's a helluva guy
 - Hamilton's AHL team
 - Travel-

- ler's delay
- Canadian singer Ms. Reno
 - Horizontal rest
 - Those supervising
 - Big carrier of blood
 - "Game of Thrones" actress Ms. Headey

- Kind of mackerel
- Deep __ (Resturant appliance)
- Bohemian
- Zest
- Sleep Country Canada products

DOWN

- Decorate the cake
- "Yup."
- Royal LePage worker: 3 wds.
- Water channel, e.g.
- Detective Vic __ (Michael Chiklis' role on "The Shield")

- "Robin Hood" (2010) minstrel, __ A'Dayle
- Midday
- "The Price Is Right" prizes: 2 wds.
- Mr. Somerhalder
- Classic order at Montreal's since-1927 famous eatery

- Dunn's: 4 wds.
- Disinfectant brand
 - Between ports
 - Rita's __ (Cape Breton's 'steeped'-in-tradition establishment opened by Rita MacNeil in the 1980s)
 - Emperor of Rome
 - In __ (As originally placed)
 - Most pink
 - Sort of salt
 - Prohibit
 - Ancient 1900
 - Tact' suffix
 - Saloon supply
 - Flawed in a way [abbr.]
 - Nest: French
 - Maritime message
 - Ancient statue's modesty preserver: 2 wds.
 - "Let's Hear It for the Boy": 1984 hit for __ Williams
 - Mr. Disney
 - Labels
 - Feigns: 2 wds.
 - Rescuer
 - Yogi of famous quotes
 - __ commun-
 - ity (Exclusive residences locale)
 - Boxes
 - 1970 Kinks tune
 - Portraitist, Alice __ (b.1900 - d.1984)
 - Mr. Romano
 - Ball

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
If something feels good then just do it. As long as it is moral, it does not matter what others might think about it. You have never been one to let criticism stop you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Forget about financial matters and focus on your family. Get things in perspective today and remind yourself that, in the greater scheme of things, money is only bits of paper.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Make sure you are on the move because the more people you meet, the more opportunities will come your way in the near future. There is also a chance you could meet someone new to love.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Don't let those who say you are behaving in an illogical manner persuade you to change your ways. What you are doing may look silly to them but from your point of view it makes sense.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't take on extra tasks over the next 24 hours. With the commitments you already have you are likely to be on the go from first thing in the morning to last thing at night.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you admit you need help today you will be overwhelmed by offers of assistance. But don't take the easy way out and let friends and colleagues do everything for you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A new relationship will start today or over the weekend. It may or may not be romantic in nature but whatever guise it takes it will be fun. This is also a good time to interact with large groups of people.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will go out of your way to be nice to people today — even with those who have not always been nice to you in the past.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Your generosity knows no bounds: you want to do everything for everyone. Common sense should tell you that isn't actually possible but you will do your best to make a positive difference in the next 24 hours.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The intensity of your emotions could catch you by surprise today, so stay in control and don't over-react. If you do go too far you may be a bit embarrassed later when you realize what was said and done.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a good day to patch up disputes with loved ones. You will find it easier than usual to admit that you were to blame for what went wrong.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You will find it difficult to make up your mind about something but that's OK. The planets indicate it will pay to put off a decision about a money matter until early next week.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

6				7				3
	8						2	
4				9				8
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	5						6	
7			2					1

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SUNDAY
11AM - 6PM



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